

13. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- all cavities are situated within the laser beam guide means, preferably in front of the laser.

14. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- one or more cavities are arranged within the laser beam guide means in front of the laser, and
- at least one cavity is arranged at the rear of the laser.

15. The laser source according to claim 12, including in combination

- a "serial" cavity arranged within the laser beam guide means,
- a "lateral" cavity arranged outside said laser beam guide means, and
- a beam splitter/combiner deflecting a portion of the beam into said lateral cavity.

16. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- two reflectors, in particular Bragg gratings, are provided, whose peak wavelengths are offset and/or bandwidths are different.

17. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- the laser emits light between 800 and 1600nm and/or
- any of the reflectors or beam splitters/combiners has a reflectivity maximum within the bandwidth of the laser, and/or
- a bandwidth of its reflectivity between 0.05 and 2nm full-width half-maximum, and/or
- a peak reflectivity between 0.005 and 0.4.

A1 18. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- the optical field established in the first cavity is out of phase with the optical field of the laser, and
- the optical field established in the second cavity is out of phase with the optical field established in said first cavity,
- thus inhibiting phase matching with the laser and hence coherent operation of said laser source.

19. The laser source according to claim 12, wherein

- the laser is a semiconductor diode laser, especially an InGaAs quantum well diode laser, and/or
- the laser guide means comprises an optical fiber, either a polarization-maintaining or non-polarization maintaining optical fiber, and/or
- the reflectors are fiber Bragg gratings within said fiber.

20. The laser source according to claim 12, further comprising

- means for directing the laser beam into the optical fiber, in particular beam collimating or focusing means attached to or integrated into said optical fiber.

21. A method of making a laser source that generates a stable laser beam of a given bandwidth, said laser source having a laser and laser beam guide means in front of said laser, comprising the steps of

- simultaneously manufacturing, preferably within said laser beam guide means, a plurality